REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Office's review of the present application. In response to the Office Action, each one of the cited references has been reviewed, and the rejections and objections made to the claims by the Examiner have been considered. The claims presently on file in the present application are believed to be patentably distinguishable over the cited references, and therefore allowance of these claims is earnestly solicited.

In order to render the claims more clear and definite, and to emphasize the patentable novelty thereof, new claims 26-30 have been added.

Accordingly, all elected claims presently on file in the subject application are in condition for immediate allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Election/Restriction

The Office issued a restriction requirement to elect claims of either Group I (claims 1-8 and 25) or Group II (claims 9-24). In response to the written restriction requirement, Applicants affirm the telephonic election without traverse of Group I (claims 1-8 and 25).

Rejections

Rejection Under 35USC Section 102(b)

Claims 1-4, 6-8, and 25 have been rejected under 35 USC Section 102(b), as being anticipated by U.S. patent 5,832,298 to Sanchez et al. ("Sanchez"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request reconsideration based on features in the claims which are neither disclosed nor suggested in the cited reference.

As to a rejection under 102(b), "[a]nticipation is established only when a single prior art reference discloses expressly or under the principles of inherence, each and every element of the claimed invention." _RCA Corp. v. Applied Digital Data Systems, Inc., (1984, CAFC) 221 U.S.P.Q. 385._ The standard for lack of novelty, that is for "anticipation," is one of strict

identity. To anticipate a claim, a patent or a single prior art reference must contain all of the essential elements of the particular claims. *Schroeder v. Owens-Corning Fiberglass Corp., 514 F.2d 901, 185 U.S.P.Q. 723 (9th Cir. 1975); and Cool-Fin Elecs. Corp. v. International Elec. Research Corp., 491 F.2d 660, 180 U.S.P.Q. 481 (9th Cir. 1974).*

Independent claim 1, and its dependent claims 2-4 and 6-8, are patentably distinguishable over the cited reference because claim 1 emphasizes the novel features of the present invention which provide customized user interfaces for network resources to different networked client computers. In this regard, claim 1 specifies a user interface system which includes:

"a register configured to collect resource information from one or more resources coupled to a communications network;

an options module configured to provide resource options based on the collected resource information;

a user profiler configured to construct profiles for clients coupled to the network; and

a user interface builder configured to construct user interfaces based on the user profiles and the resource options, wherein the user interface builder may be configured to construct a unique user interface for each of the clients coupled to the network."

The Sanchez reference describes a computer connected to a network (Fig. 1) which "generates and displays an adaptive graphical user interface of a current configuration and current capabilities of a networked peripheral device" on the computer (Abstract).

The novel features of the present invention are not anticipated by the Sanchez reference in that the essential element of a user profiler that constructs profiles for clients (i.e. more than one client) is absent from the Sanchez reference. The term "clients", as defined by Applicants, includes "computers, such as personal computers (PC) and Macintosh computers, for example. The clients 130 may also be larger computer systems, including file servers, and other networked computer systems. The clients may be personal digital assistants (PDAs) or similar hand-held computing technology." (Specification, p.6, lines 20-23).

In the Sanchez reference, the "invention can be embodied in any one of computers 11 or 12" (col. 5, lines 18-19). The Sanchez reference teaches the printer/fax driver 40 (Fig. 4) of computer 11 (whose elements are illustrated in Fig. 2) as generating the adaptive graphical

user interface, but only for computer 11. The Sanchez reference neither teaches nor suggests
that any element of computer 11 constructs a user profile for a different client, such as laptop
computer 12. The teaching of Sanchez to remembering the sender name has nothing to do
with constructing a user profile for a different client. Therefore, the rejection is improper at
least for this reason and should be withdrawn.

Additionally, the novel features of the present invention are not anticipated by the
Sanchez reference in that the essential element of a user interface builder that may be
configured to construct a unique user interface for each of the clients coupled to the network
based on the user profiles is absent from the Sanchez reference. As described above, the
Sanchez reference neither teaches nor suggests that computer 11 constructs the adaptive
graphical interface for a different client; therefore, a user interface builder that is part of, for
example, computer 11 could not construct a user interface for each of the clients coupled to
the network, as does Applicants' invention.

Furthermore, the adaptive graphical user interface produced according to the Sanchez
reference is not based on the user profiles, nor is it unique for each client. Rather, the
graphical user interface taught by Sanchez includes "a representative graphical image of the
digital copier in its current configuration with its current capabilities" and "at least one user-
selectable menu of job options ... which are appropriate for the current configuration and
current capabilities of the digital copier" (col. 2, lines 46-50). Thus it is the current
configuration and capabilities of the digital copier which determine the graphical user
interface. Therefore, the user interface generated on laptop computer 12 would be the same
as the user interface generated on computer 11, because it would be derived from the current
configuration and capabilities of the digital copier, and not from any user profiles.

Therefore, the rejection is improper at least for these reasons and should be
withdrawn.

Independent claim 25 is patentably distinguishable over the cited reference because
claim 25 emphasizes the novel features of the present invention which provide customized

user interfaces for network resources to different networked client computers. In this regard, claim 25 specifies a user interface system which includes:

"means for collecting resource information from one or more resources coupled to a communications network;
      means for providing resource options based on the collected resource information;
      means for constructing profiles for <u>clients</u> coupled to the network; and
      means for constructing user interfaces <u>based on the user profiles</u> and the resource options, wherein the means for constructing the user interfaces <u>construct a unique user interface for each of the clients coupled to the communications network</u>."

As explained heretofore with reference to claim 1, the novel features of the present invention are not anticipated by the Sanchez reference in that the essential elements of means for constructing profiles for <u>clients</u> coupled to the network, and means based on the profiles for constructing <u>a unique user interface for each of the clients</u> coupled to the network are absent from the Sanchez reference. Therefore, the rejection is improper at least for this reason and should be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35USC Section 103

Claim 5 has been rejected under 35 USC Section 103(a), as being unpatentable over U.S. patent 5,832,298 to Sanchez et al. ("Sanchez") in view of U.K. patent application GB 2347766A by Wilson ("Wilson"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request reconsideration based on the dependence of this claim on independent claim 1, whose reasons for allowability over the Sanchez reference have been discussed heretofore and against which the Wilson reference has not been cited. Therefore, the rejection is improper at least for that reason and should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

Attorney for Applicants has carefully reviewed each one of the cited references, and believes that the claims presently on file in the subject application patentably distinguish thereover, either taken alone or in combination with one another.

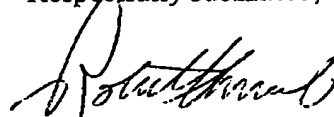Therefore, all claims presently on file in the subject application are in condition for

immediate allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. If it is felt for any reason that direct communication with Applicant's attorney would serve to advance prosecution of this case to finality, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned Robert C. Sismilich, Esq. at the below-listed telephone number.

AUTHORIZATION TO PAY AND PETITION
FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF ANY NECESSARY FEES

If any charges or fees must be paid in connection with the foregoing communication (including but not limited to the payment of an extension fee or issue fees), or if any overpayment is to be refunded in connection with the above-identified application, any such charges or fees, or any such overpayment, may be respectively paid out of, or into, the Deposit Account No. 08-2025 of Hewlett-Packard Company. If any such payment also requires Petition or Extension Request, please construe this authorization to pay as the necessary Petition or Request which is required to accompany the payment.

Respectfully submitted,

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